



Trees to Plant Under Power Lines

Trees that grow into power lines pose serious safety issues and can result in power failures or surges. Outages can occur when a tree limb contacts a power line or a tree falls onto several lines.

The table below lists some power line-friendly trees in our service area. Generally a tree of small stature that matures at a height less than 25 feet is the best choice.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Note
Acer ginnala	Amur maple	15-20 ft	Small tree native to China
Acer palmatum	Japanese maple	15-25 ft	Numerous varieties, colors, forms
Acer palatum	Bloodgood Japanese maple	15-20 ft	Reddish- purple foliage, full to partial sun for planting
Amelanchier spp.	Serviceberries	15-25 ft	Many varieties and hybrids
Cercis Canadensis	Eastern redbud	20-25 ft	Showy flowers, varieties com in many colors
Chionanthus virginicus	White fringetree	12-20 ft	Native with white drooping flowers
Cornus florida	Flowering dogwood	20-25 ft	White flowers, varieties come in different colors
Cornus kousa	Kousa dogwood	20-25 ft	White flowers, varieties com in different colors
Cotinus coggygria	Common smoketree	10-15 ft	Avoid the American smoketree which grows to 30 ft
Magnolia grandiflora var. little gem	Little Gem Magnolia	15-20 ft	Same fragrance as Southern Magnolia, white flowers all summer
Hamamelis spp.	Witchhazel	15-20 ft	Many varieties; Common witchhazel grows to 30 ft
Ilex x attenuate	Foster holly	10-15 ft	An evergreen, used as a barrier in landscapes
Koelreuteria paniculata	Golden raintree	20-25 ft	Yellow flowers in late spring, can grow to 35 ft in some locations
Lagerstroemia spp.	Crape myrtle	15-25 ft	Many varieties and cultivars; Most grow under 25 ft in Tennessee; Avoid the "tree" types
Prunus serrulata var. Kwanzan	Kwanzan Cherry	15-25 ft	Delicate pink flowers, full sun, fall color bronze to red
Malus sp.	Flowering crabapples	20-25 ft	Many ornamental varieties, all colors of flowers, small fruit that some consider messy. Good wildlife tree.
Syringa vulgaris	Common lilac	10-20 ft	Small tree or large shrub

Source: Agricultural Extension Services, University of Tennessee

If you need additional tree trimming information, contact us at 380-4890.

